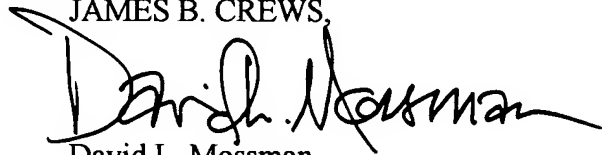


The claims remaining in the application are 1 through 13.

REMARKS

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments presented above permit the claims directed to the embodiment of the invention related to crosslinked polymer gels to be allowed. Consideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully reminded of his duty to indicate allowable subject matter. The Examiner is invited to call the Applicant's attorney at the number below for any reason, especially any reason that may help advance the prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,
JAMES B. CREWS,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David L. Mossman", written over the printed name.

David L. Mossman
Registration No. 29,570
Attorney for Applicant
Telephone No. 512/219-4026
Facsimile No. 512/219-4036